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HEALTH OFFICER CLOSES ALL SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BARS

Health Officer Closes All Santa Barbara County Bars

COVID-19 / JUN 29 2020 05:43 PM / BYEDHAT STAFF / 115 COMMENTS / READS 29723

An outdoor table at O'Malleys on State Street in Santa Barbara (Photo by Donald Teel on Unsplash)

Update by Santa Barbara County Public Health Department
June 29, 2020

Santa Barbara County Health Officer, Dr. Henning Ansorg has issued a health officer order mandating the closure of local bars at the recommendation of the California Department of Public Health. This guidance is effective at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, July 1, 2020. This Order will continue until 5 p.m. on July 26, 2020 or until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing.

The following guidelines must be followed:

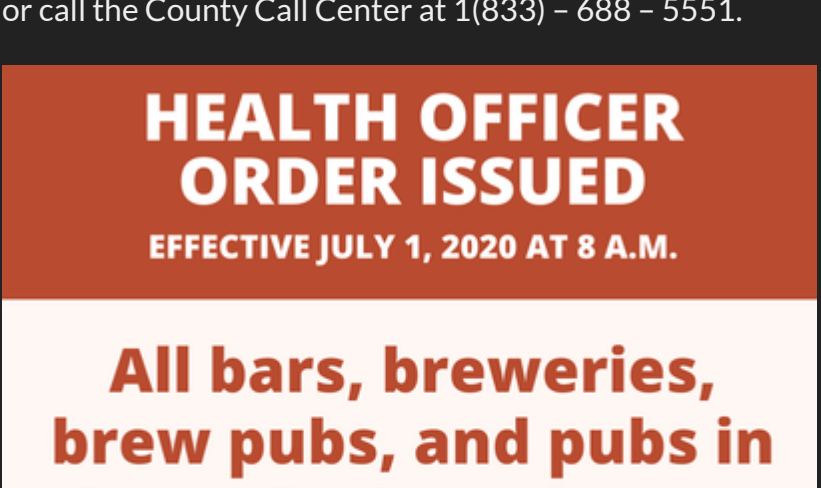
- Brewpubs, breweries, bars, and pubs, should close unless they are offering sit-down, dine-in meals. Alcohol may only be sold in the same transaction as a meal.
- Dine-in restaurants, brewpubs, breweries, bars, and pubs that provide sit-down meals should follow the dine-in restaurant guidance and should continue to encourage takeout and delivery service whenever possible.
- Brewpubs, breweries, bars, and pubs that do not provide sit-down meals, but wish to operate under this Order must obtain an Emergency Food Permit.

Wineries and tasting rooms may remain open at this time. Additional guidance and the full health officer order can be found here.

“We have made the decision to close bars to be in compliance with State guidance, especially since our case count continues to rise day by day. This action, particularly in anticipation of the holiday weekend, is a proactive measure to curb the spread of COVID-19 locally,” said Dr. Henning Ansorg. “We have to keep each other safe during this time. Changing our habits by making physical distancing and wearing a face covering part of our daily routines will save lives.”

This health officer order is closing bars due to the findings that physical movement of people within bars, the duration of time spent in the establishment, and the degree of social mixing within individuals and groups are all greater in these settings.

More information about the COVID-19 response locally, visit www.publichealthsbc.org or call the County Call Center at 1(833) – 688 – 5551.



HEALTH OFFICER ORDER ISSUED
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020 AT 8 A.M.
All bars, breweries, brew pubs, and pubs in Santa Barbara County are ordered to close.
publichealthsbc.org
Santa Barbara County PUBLIC Health DEPARTMENT

GOVERNOR RECOMMENDS CLOSING SANTA BARBARA AND VENTURA COUNTY BARS

By edhat staff
June 28, 2020

Governor Gavin Newsom ordered the closure of bars in seven counties and recommended the closure in eight others including Santa Barbara and Ventura.

The order and recommendations were put in place to a rise in COVID-19 cases throughout the state after the majority of business sectors were allowed to reopen.

On Sunday afternoon, Newsom posted an alert on twitter stating, "Due to the rising spread of #COVID19, CA is ordering bars to close in Fresno, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, San Joaquin, and Tulare, while recommending they close in Contra Costa, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, & Ventura."

“COVID-19 is still circulating in California, and in some parts of the state, growing stronger,” wrote Newsom in a statement. “That’s why it is critical we take this step to limit the spread of the virus in the counties that are seeing the biggest increases.”

California Public Health Department (CDPH) Director Dr. Sonia Angell stated they are actively monitoring COVID-19 across the state and are working closely with counties where there are increased rates and concerning patterns of transmission. “Closing bars in these counties is one of a number of targeted actions counties are implementing across our state to slow the virus’ spread and reduce risk,” she said in a written statement.

The CDPH guidance recommended that counties on the County Monitoring List close bars for three or more consecutive days, but less than 14 days, through local health officer order. Santa Barbara County, who has been on the monitoring list for 13 days, might be mandated to issue a health officer order to close bars given the rising case count locally.

The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department (PHD) is strongly considering options to address these concerns and is continuing to track local metrics while hoping to have further updates regarding the State’s recommendation in the coming days., according to a press release issued Sunday evening.

The actions defined in the guidance include the closure of brewpubs, breweries, bars, and pubs, unless they are offering sit-down, dine-in meals. Wineries and tasting rooms are not included in this recommendation.

According to CDPH, bars are social environments where groups of people mix. In these environments, alcohol consumption reduces inhibition and impairs judgment, leading to reduced compliance with recommended core personal protective measures, such as the mandatory use of face coverings and the practice of social and physical distancing. Bars are generally louder environments requiring raised voices leading to the greater projection of droplets. These factors present a higher likelihood of transmission of COVID-19 within groups, between groups, and among the workforce.

“I implore all community members to adhere to strict physical distancing at all times and avoid gatherings. Until there is a vaccine, the use of face coverings in conjunction with physical distancing is the most effective way to stop the spread of this virus,” said Dr. Henning Ansorg, Health Officer for Santa Barbara County. “The State’s recommendation comes at a critical time. There is still an opportunity to make a difference in the course of this pandemic, but we must all recommit to this effort.”

On Friday, Santa Barbara County Public Health reported 81 new COVID-19 positive cases bringing the grand total to 2,712 with 54 recovering and 20 of those in the intensive care unit. However, health officials stated some percentages of cases are decreasing and hospitals are equipped to handle a potential increase of patients.

This past Friday also marked the local health officer's approval to reopen previously closed personal service businesses including nail salons and tattoo parlors.

CDPH released a new website forecasting a series of metrics for all counties. The CalCat tool forecasts that Santa Barbara County will have a total of 309 COVID-19 related deaths and 154 daily hospitalizations by the end of July. The county is currently recording 28 deaths and 53 daily hospitalizations.

[This article has been updated with information from the Santa Barbara County Health Department]

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RHS JUN 29, 2020 10:00 AM

On June 26 US deaths from COVID were reported at 2437. This is the fifth most for any day since this pandemic hit us. So, no, deaths are not "decreasing daily." Why say such things which threaten people's personal safety when others read them? Are politics more important than facts? (Seems like a wasted rhetorical question.)

SMARY JUN 29, 2020 09:56 AM

try usa today and STAT

SMARY JUN 29, 2020 09:56 AM

usa today and STAT

SMARY JUN 29, 2020 09:55 AM

I'd say our feckless bleach gargling leader stealing PPC supplies from states and attempting to profit financially from this pandemic has plenty to do with it.

DW2000 JUN 29, 2020 09:27 AM

Bigone, is there any non "main stream" media that you would recommend?

DW2000 JUN 29, 2020 08:43 AM

"Muh Both Sides"

DW2000 JUN 29, 2020 08:30 AM

Hey everyone, Mike Pence has finally asked for people to wear masks and socially distance, in Texas no less! It only took 4 months , 2.6 million cases and 127,000 American deaths for the VP to say "wear a mask". How much more will it take for the president to say this on camera?

A-1593528656 JUN 29, 2020 10:19 AM

Pasty Pence sees the handwriting on the wall for his potential 2024 presidential bid and may have been slapped into submission by Mother. As far as too vain Trump, he's an old dog that is mentally incapable of learning any tricks. He needs to be put out to pasture on November 3rd.

LUVADUCK JUN 29, 2020 08:26 AM

Too late to close the barn door: the horse is loose. If we could cordon the place off like a military base, we'd still see consequences for 2 weeks, more for those whose blood infections--the basis for this--ravage them. Deep vein thrombosis clots that travel to the heart and cause attacks or to the brain causing strokes; damaged kidneys resulting in life-long need for dialysis. This is a systemic disease carried by blood, not a cold. It has potential for being a physical & medical expense for a lifetime.

SMARY JUN 29, 2020 08:09 AM

what many fail to realize is "recovered" means no longer testing + for covid. It doesn't mean healthy. Some will live the remainder of their lives with permanent organ, brain, heart, kidney and lung damage. It's not JUST about hospitalization and death rates, it's about long term health consequences.

SHASTA GUY JUN 29, 2020 07:05 AM

Another weekend for large gatherings that are ideal for promoting the spread of Covid-19. This is from Chicago: https://twitter.com/TIME/status/1277440908426870789

CADILLACKID JUN 28, 2020 10:36 PM

I have a social media account with a fair amount of followers that I personally know being born and raised in Santa Barbara, correct me if I’m wrong but isn’t it irresponsible for health care workers, CNA’s and people who work with children to take OR MAKE proper measures and decisions based on their job titles and responsibilities? I know I KNOOOWWW everyone has a right to make their own decisions but wouldn’t it be just the right human conscious COMMON SENSE choice to not be exposing yourself after working your nurse shift at cottage? Bragging about working with COVID 19 patients and also those who work with old people and kids??? I see too much of this I don’t trust anyone at all out there, stay safe everyone, don’t stay in too much don’t wear a mask every single minute of the day only where they require you to wear one and go out and get sun, stay away from shady people, like those who think it’s necessary to go clubbing because god forbid you miss out on a drinking binge night with “the girls” or with “the boys” and before anyone tries to talk crap I have plenty of friends we are just smart and chose to hang out at home and have bbqs rather then be club rats lol

CADILLACKID JUN 29, 2020 09:01 AM

No

A-1593528656 JUN 29, 2020 07:33 AM

Follow for follow on insta bro?

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 09:50 PM

How free are we really? Being on "suggested home lockdown" is no different than being a prisoner under house arrest.

ZEROHAWK JUN 29, 2020 12:14 PM

free enough so i can decide to stay in or go out and go kayaking and fishing instead....that's pretty free and not like house arrest whatsoever....i second the 'duh' :)

ROGER JUN 29, 2020 08:32 AM

I have been in Max. Security and hanging out at home is better, much better than that.

THEREALBEBE JUN 29, 2020 12:50 AM

Um, @9:50pm, I'm pretty sure that being on a suggestion lockdown is WAY different from being a prisoner on house arrest. Duh.

SBLETSGETALONG JUN 28, 2020 07:18 PM

What’s are the most important #s? Deaths and hospitalization. Not how many people have it. That was the goal of social distancing & shutting down. There is no cure, and a vaccine may never be developed as these pesky bugs adapt Just like swine flu, no vaccine. It disappeared on its own. For those if you collecting unemployment, plus the Covid bonus, good for you. Totally u sets tabs why you want to stay at home. You’re making more money sitting in your tush. But you may not have a job to go back to and the Covid money us running out. As to freedom, we are a country that asks questions and do t just accept to dogma dished out by government officials in their ivory towers eating $12/gallon ice cream. Politicians only care about themselves and their paychecks. Coronaviruses have been around for centuries. Thus one was in a lab where they were studying it. Yet they still don’t know what they’re doing. I believe in maintaining the line of overwhelming the hospitals. Talk to the hospitals, they are not close to being overwhelmed here in SB county. Let people earn a living and put food in their families tables. All of you collecting Covid bonuses shouldn’t have a voice, you are biased. I’m watching business after business closing their doors putting people on unemployment. It’s sad to see the “cure” being worse than the disease. As to masks, if your susceptible. Wear a medical grade mask. Why would you put your life in other peoples hands. That’s irresponsible if you. And for Gods sake, wash your damn hands and practice good hygiene! You’re spreading disease by not washing your hands. Forget the mask, I’d take a mandatory hand sanitizing over a mask any day. Stop touching everything SVD then taking your mask off spreading the germs to yourself. Stay safe, stay human, stay open & encouraging. We are all going through this.

BIGUGLYSTICK JUN 29, 2020 11:28 AM

Not everyone on unemployment is "sitting on their tush"... nor does it mean they don't want life to go back to normal. Some of us have had multiple hardships aside from this virus that were only compounded by the virus. Thank GOD for that government money that our own taxes went to pay for. A little help does not make one lazy. What an assumption!

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 07:49 PM

7:42 - deaths are going DOWN, not up.

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 07:42 PM

Your post is low information and my only take away from reading it is that you believe everyone is abusing unemployment benefits. Bless your little heart. .Hospitalizations and deaths are going up across the country. Hospitalizations are going up here. Give it another month or two we will have overflowing hospitals and morgues. Texas is already getting overrun and shifting patients between hospitals. Lind of guessing you took advantage of the "Covid Bonus."

SHASTA GUY JUN 28, 2020 06:27 PM

Many counties are still seeing rising case counts that coincide with the protests the the first week of June per the CA Covid-19 dashboard. I have no intention of going in any bar or restaurant at this point anyway, but I believe it should be a personal choice. Educate yourself on the risks and act appropriately. The advice for mountaineers is applicable here: Nature sets the terms and you must choose to accept them.

MACPUZL JUN 29, 2020 08:42 PM

BO - Nope. The dates of contact and disease development correlate with the reopening, not the later protests. Sticking your fingers in your ears doesn't make the world conform to your desired outcomes, especially considering where you seem to keep your fingers.

SACJON JUN 29, 2020 04:59 PM

BIGMAN - you keep saying this. Where is your evidence? I provided 5 sources for my claim that the protests weren't the cause of the spike. Where's your science on yours? And no, clicking an arrow is not "evidence."

BIGMAN JUN 29, 2020 04:14 PM

MACPUZL they 'v told contact tracers not to ask if someone was at a protest so, this data is not accurate.

MACPUZL JUN 28, 2020 08:21 PM

https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/06/24/883017035/what-contact-tracing-may-tell-about-cluster-spread-of-the-coronavirus

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 06:10 PM

For all you naysayers, continue not wearing a mask, keeping at least 6+ feet from others, never washing your hands, and rolling the dice. Please, too, have good health care insurance because I sure don't need to support you and your bullheadedness all the way to the mortuary. Will I cry? Hah!

LANDSHARK JUN 28, 2020 06:04 PM

Now that all the bars in LA County are shut down, guess where all those patrons are going to go to party?

BIGUGLYSTICK JUN 29, 2020 11:29 AM

They are already here! We took a Sunday drive only to see the waterfront simply crawling with tourists, none of them wearing masks or social distancing! Turned right back around, windows rolled up and went home where it's safe. Sheer idiocy abounds out there.

CRYSTALANDMAUI JUN 29, 2020 07:13 AM

They coming here to Santa Barbara, I saw on the new last night, come to Santa Barbara enjoy the food and drinking, this weekend will be busy here, then the next surge. Santa Barbara will be closed down again, the following week. I hope all the stores, bars , wineries demand a face mask to be worn or no service, have the hand sanitizer at the doors.

KRUPPE JUN 28, 2020 05:34 PM

Devil and the deep sea. Individualism has a price.

BIGONE JUN 28, 2020 05:12 PM

Insanity. The reality is showing up in death counts. Despite “exploding” cases and a huge increase in testing, fatalities have remained well below April, the height of the outbreak. Quick, round up those careless, thoughtless wild beach partygoers and drunkards at the bars! Close the playgrounds! Shut down 10-member family gatherings! Good thing we didn’t get around to defunding the police yet! We were all staying safely home apart together (or was it together apart?) for 15 days (or was it 30 days? or two months? or six months? or indefinitely?). The expressed goal: keep the “curve” of serious new cases, hospitalizations and intensive-care unit use from rising too quickly and overwhelming the health care system. We have done that. There has been a big reduction in the median age of positive tests from 60-somethings to 33, an age at which the ill are much less at risk for serious clinical consequences. The uptick in the 15-44 age group, showing positivity rates close to 20%, is comprised of largely asymptomatic or experiencing symptoms “so mild that they would not even have to seek medical attention.” There were 4226 "cases" in California yesterday; there were 1957 on April 21. There were 32 deaths in California yesterday; there were 121 on April 22. If you can't see the meaning of this data, I feel sorry for you. Closing things down again is complete lunacy.

LETMEGO JUN 29, 2020 09:09 AM

The problem with the increased positive cases in the 18-49 group is that they will take it home to grandma. There have been more than a few proven instances in other states of large gatherings spreading to families and including 18 + people - including 80 year old grandparents and cancer patients - cancer patients who were only outdoors AND distanced themselves by at least 6 ft. Still infected. I am surprised that you cannot make the connection that increased cases (esp asymptomatic) = increased spread to those at the most risk. But go ahead...if you are anything like the folks on my IG feed, you are enjoying your road trips and backyard teenaged birthday parties with 30+ kids and no masks. I'm sure NONE of those kids are seeing their grandparents and they are all properly quarantining for the next 2 weeks.

LUVADUCK JUN 29, 2020 08:30 AM

Carriers, often younger people, who don't know they are sick or have a light case spread this disease and not just to each other.

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 07:47 PM

Unfortunately 7:10 pm, California already is.

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 07:10 PM

Texas and Florida will be wastelands soon.

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 07:09 PM

The South has fallen, again.

POTIF JUN 28, 2020 07:02 PM

So are Democrat governors. And, some Democrat mayors are closing down within The Republican states.

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 05:29 PM

Tell that to Republican governors, who are shutting down again.

DW2000 JUN 28, 2020 04:27 PM

Such a shame, the United States paid the economic price of a shutdown but too many of our citizens and politicians didn't have the discipline to see it through. We should be joining much of the developed world which has beaten back the first wave of the virus significantly and yet it surges here.

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 04:26 PM

We can thank lack of national leadership for being where we are. There may not be a second wave seeing we aren't going to make it out of the first one.

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 04:21 PM

I, from the throne of my paid off mcmansion, whilst drawing my 90% pension, would prefer we shut down the lesslings completely, until at which time it is determined I may safely valet my Bentley without the slightest hint of presumed danger.

GOOSEBERRIES JUN 28, 2020 04:12 PM

I hope we are forced into closure. Maybe Santa Barbara shouldn't have been allowing visitors from LA or surrounding regions. I've been saying keep tourists away for weeks now. If we had maybe we wouldn't be experiencing such a spike. Shut down the hotels, nail and hair salons too.

LETMEGO JUN 29, 2020 09:10 AM

Like Hawaii

CHEMICALSUPERFREAK JUN 28, 2020 05:56 PM

GOOSEBERRIES: I have a friend who lives in Prince Edward Island, Canada, which is very much a beautiful and touristy beach destination during the summers. He says they closed the island to outsiders. You must own property AND be able to prove that you can quarantine there for 14 days before you're allowed on the island. They've had 27 cases out of a population of 150,000. They're also lucky in that they're and island and can control who comes and goes to a large extent.

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 05:48 PM

GOOSEBERRIES it won't happen city wants their bed taxes they already took a huge hit. CIty is complicit too.

A-1593528656 JUN 28, 2020 03:56 PM

I am not surprised many of us saw this coming. Now the ones who all along bitched and refused to wear masks are bitching again. It's jaw dropping like they think the virus doesn't exist and petulantly want life to continue as normal well folks it WON"T be normal for a long time now, and longer still if ppl keep shirking masks and social distancing. I give it 1 week before it's mandatory. 20 out of 80 is alot of ppl in ICU.

LUVADUCK JUN 29, 2020 08:03 AM

Too bad those who exercise their "freedom to choose" not to wear masks and to congregate in person could be identified somehow so that the <cost> of their freedom is that if they get sick, they are "free to choose" to treat it themselves or pay for hospitalization or a funeral whichever comes first. Freedom comes with a cost: responsibility. Disconnecting the two leads to abuse just as "free" napkins & catsup leads some people to grab handfuls they dont use and throw away.

@CHELSEA JUN 28, 2020 03:56 PM

Covid -19 has killed 120,000 people in the USA within 4 months. Yet 9/11 which killed a mere 3,000 people is mourned every year, twenty years later. Imagine what that number would be if lockdown didn’t occur? Still, it’s way too early to discuss true death rates and appropriate reactions. What people still don’t seem to realise is that this thing isn’t over. It is only just beginning.

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Dear XO1660 - That's what
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